

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a keyboard to enable text entry; ~~and~~
a pointing device that is operable during a text entry mode; and
~~a controller to detect when a processor-based system enters a text entry mode and in response to detection of the entry into the text entry mode, moving change a characteristic of a cursor of the pointing device to a pre-selected area on a display device to avoid inadvertent interruption of text entry in the text entry mode.~~

Claim 2 (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller changes a characteristic of the cursor by locking prevents movement of the moved cursor while in text entry mode.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller changes a characteristic of the cursor by reducing reduces the sensitivity of the cursor while in text entry mode is detected.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller changes a characteristic of moves the cursor in response to activation of a pre-selected key by moving the cursor to a pre-selected area on a display which is away from a text entry area.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller restores the position of the moved cursor to the cursor's unchanged state when the text entry mode is exited no longer detected.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller changes a characteristic of the cursor by hiding ~~hides the cursor from view in response to detection of the entry into the when the text entry mode is entered.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller changes the characteristic of ~~moves~~ the cursor of one of a trackball device, touch pad device, or mouse device.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller detects a selection of a designated key of said keyboard, and in response to said selection releases the ~~moved cursor from a changed characteristic.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
detecting the entry of a processor-based system into a text entry mode; and
in response to detecting entry into the text entry mode, changing a characteristic of moving a cursor of a ~~an operable pointing device to a pre-selected area on a display in response to detecting the entry into the text entry mode, the movement of said cursor to reduce accidental interruption of text entry.~~

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein changing a characteristic of moving the cursor comprises automatically moving the cursor to a pre-selected area of a graphical user interface away from a text entry area.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein changing a characteristic of moving the cursor comprises re-sizing the cursor.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[10]] 11, wherein ~~moving changing a characteristic of the cursor comprises preventing the moved cursor from being repositioned while in text entry mode.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein ~~moving~~ changing a characteristic of the cursor comprises moving the cursor based on a selection of a pre-selected key.

Claims 15-16 (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) An article comprising one or more machine-readable storage media containing instructions that when executed enable a processor to:

detect the entry into a text entry mode; and
move a cursor of a pointing device to a pre-selected area on a display that is away from a text entry area in response to detecting entry into the text entry mode, ~~said cursor to move to a pre-selected area on a display.~~

18. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to lock the moved cursor of the pointing device at the selected position until text entry is no longer detected.

Claim 19 (Canceled).

20. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to resize the cursor of the pointing device to a selected size in response to detecting the entry into the text entry mode.

21. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to adjust the sensitivity of the pointing device in response to detecting the entry into the text entry mode.

22. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 17, wherein the instructions when executed enable the processor to move the cursor of the pointing device based on the key activation of one or more pre-selected keys, the pre-selected key in close proximity to the pointing device.

Claims 23-25 (Canceled).

26. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

- a display device;
- a pointing device having a cursor;
- a keyboard having keys to enter text; and
- a controller to detect entry into a text entry mode and to move the cursor of the pointing device to a pre-selected area on the display away from a text entry area in response to ~~detection of~~ detecting entry into the text entry mode, ~~cursor movement to enable text entry without unwanted input from said pointing device~~.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the keyboard comprises the pointing device and ~~wherein~~ the pointing device is at least one of a trackball device, mouse device, or touch pad device.

Claim 28 (Canceled).

29. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the controller prevents ~~the~~ a repositioned cursor from moving while in the text entry mode.

30. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the controller restores the position of ~~the~~ a moved cursor of the pointing device if text entry has stopped.

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim [[5]] 1, wherein the controller changes a characteristic of ~~moves~~ the cursor in response to activation of a key that is in close proximity to a pointing device ~~that is integral~~ integrated with the keyboard and ~~apart from~~ the keys.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein moving the cursor comprises moving the cursor to a predetermined position on a graphical toolbar.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 wherein detecting the entry of a processor-based system into a text entry mode includes detecting a time interval between key strokes.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[10]] 11 including restoring the moved cursor to a position on the display graphical user interface for text entry.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 including preventing a characteristic of the cursor from moving changing when designated keys on a keyboard are actuated.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35 wherein preventing a characteristic of the cursor from moving changing includes preventing a characteristic of the cursor from moving changing when one of the a shift key or control key is actuated.